

PEST: Citrus Canker (*Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *citri* [Xac])

BASIC PROFILE: CC is a bacterium causing lesions on leaves, stems and fruit of citrus plants. Lesions have raised, brown, water-soaked margins, usually with a yellow halo. It spreads through wind-driven rain (storms) and on infected equipment. It can also move across distances in citrus nursery stock. CC causes leaves and fruit to drop prematurely; infected fruit is safe to eat but too unsightly to sell. Florida is the only U.S. state known to be infested and the state is under a federal quarantine for CC.

LDAF ACTIVITY: We conduct annual visual inspections for CC at marketplace locations (looking for citrus plants from Florida, which are prohibited) and at nursery grower / NSD locations (examining citrus stock for symptoms and checking plant origin paperwork). Commercially-packed citrus fruit from Florida is allowed into Louisiana and no longer is required to bear a Limited Permit stamp. When prohibited plants or diseased fruit are found, stop sales are issued and the material is usually destroyed or may be returned to origin. Citrus stock from out of state is banned.

